

A Healthy Church in a Sick Society-Part 5

(Titus 2:6-8)

I. Investigation (Titus 2:6)

- A. Young men are those from about ages 20 to 60.
- B. Those are dangerous years for all men.
- C. The danger of laziness.
 - 1. Lazy men are never taught to be constructive.
 - 2. Lazy men are not taught to serve others but be served.
 - 3. Lazy men are never taught hard work.
- D. The danger of freedom.
 - 1. They're out from under control.
 - 2. When they begin to do what they please, they're usually pleased to do that which is not pleasing to God.
- E. The danger of a decadent culture.
 - 1. Familiarity with vice produces acceptance.
 - 2. When young men become accustomed to vice they are victimized by its allure.
- F. The danger of a godless education.
 - 1. Christianity is either ignored, laughed at, or not considered intellectual.
 - 2. When those beliefs are attacked in the educational system, young men can lose their faith in God.
- G. The danger of immaturity.
 - 1. Temptation is strongest in youth.
 - 2. Habits are formed that remain into old age.
- H. The word "exhort" means "to come alongside and encourage."
- I. The word "sober minded" simply means to develop self-control.

II. Imitation (Titus 2:7)

- A. Exhortation without example is hypocrisy.
- B. Hypocrisy never teaches people to do right.
- C. Paul lived what he taught. (Phil. 3:17; 1Cor. 4:16; 1Cor. 11:1)
- D. Young men must know the Word of God and live according to it.
(Ps. 119:9-11)
- E. God makes no provision for you to have years of sinning, then at some point in time you become obedient in your old age.

III. Inspiration (Titus 2:8)

- A. Young men are to live this way so that anybody who comes against the Christian faith is shamed into repentance.
- B. If you destroy the credibility of Christianity it casts a shadow over the church.

IV. Conclusion

- A. If we're going to evangelize the world, the church must have godly leaders.
(1Cor. 16:13)
- B. Heinz Ketchup founder Leonard Lesord wrote, "Men have a mandate from God that we cannot and must not abdicate, to be healers of the world's misery, bearers of God's standard, and heralds of His Word."